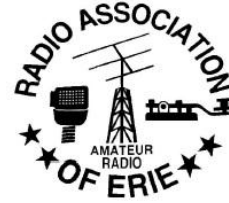




The QUARAE



Volume 13, Issue 2

March 2012

President Says....

I hope everyone is enjoying the mild winter in Erie so far this year. I know there are a few folks who are waiting for the white stuff, so hang in there, there is still hope!

Spring has sprung here in Florida, the pollen is starting to fly and the leaves are coming out on the maple trees. This time of the year reminds me of the coming Public Service Events that the RAE assists the event coordinators by providing communications support. I have received emails requesting our help again this year. So far I have the following events on my calendar:

April 29 – March of Dimes Walk- Presque Isle
June 2 – Edinboro Triathlon
June 9 & 10 – MS Society Bike Ride
June 30 – Bay Swim
August 25 – Presque Isle Triathlon

We also have potential events that we have worked in the past but I have not received their requests yet.

Half & Full Marathons – Erie Runners Club
Juvenile Diabetes Walk – Presque Isle
Run Around Erie – Presque Isle

If you are interested I would ask that you mark your calendars and be prepared to help at these events. They are a lot of fun and the organizations that we assist really appreciate our help. So if you can help please let me know.

THANKS & 73,
Doug AD4UL

December Board Meeting Minutes

A Board of Directors meeting of the Radio Association of Erie (RAE) was held on December

29, 2011 at the Erie Chapter of the American Red Cross. The president and appointed secretary were present. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the president Doug AD4UL at 1900. The minutes of the previous meeting were not available, read, nor approved.

Present were AD4UL electronically, WB3DOM, K3PLV, N3SRF, KB3NAT, WB3IFD, KB3THU, N3BXL and KE3V. Absent was Terry Nemitz KA3UTD

First order of business was discussion of the by-laws. Reviews were to be made and recommendations to be suggested before the board in future meetings.

Discussion of any changes in elections were to be brought before the general membership in February's meeting.

Chairman of the Board was named- Ron Prindle N3BXL.

FCC License trustee was named-Adam Kernohan KB3THU.

George Younkin N3SRF, Chair of the Budget



**Radio Association of Erie
Club Meeting – Thursday
Mar 1 at the Red Cross
on Pittsburgh Ave off of
W. Grandview Blvd**

**7:00 PM- General Meeting
Program: Video on Indoor Antennas &
Members to bring items for Shop and
Swap**

Committee, gave his report summary. Reported 2110.70 with a few checks outstanding. He will give a full report in February. Budget for 2011 was agreed to be used for the year 2012. The board was informed on his members. As of current, numbers were 38 full, 6 associate and 17 life members.

Frank Henry, KB3NAT was going to renew application of our 501 (3) c status on the IRS website.

There was a discussion of changes to be possibly made to the by-laws, specifically the wording in the by-laws to “expel” of its members after non-payment of dues and time limits.

Interference from St. Vincent’s was briefly discussed. Nothing more heard about it, was dismissed.

We need information of the club participating in the Bicentennial Celebration of the War of 1812.

Frank Henry KB3NAT recommended that we needed more operators at the EOC’s.

The 440 repeater was discussed. Questions if we should make repair or let it go, problems with the call and equipment along with discussion of the property to the Red Cross.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

Adam Kernohan KB3THU

January Board Meeting Minutes

A Board of Directors meeting of the Radio Association of Erie (RAE) was held on January 26, 2012 at the Erie Chapter of the American Red Cross. The president and appointed secretary were present. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the chair Ron Prindle N3BXJ at 1900. The minutes of the previous meeting were not available, read, nor approved.

Present were AD4UL electronically, WB3DOM, K3PLV, N3SRF, WB3IFD, KB3THU, N3BXL and

KE3V. Absent was Terry Nemitz KA3UTD and Frank Henry KB3NAT.

First order of business was discussion of the QUARAE. The newsletters were up on the website, although they were hidden behind links, instead of easily accessible as it was in the past.

The email list was discussed pertaining to the ownership of the list and transferring to another member was encouraged.

Board meeting minutes were not posted with the QUARAE. It was determined that next month would include both December and January.

Minutes from December meeting were read. Motion made by George Younkin N3SRF and it was seconded to be accepted as corrected.

Ron Prindle N3BXJ made a presentation about the RAE needing to get back on track. Our expenses and membership intake needed to balance the scales more than in the past.

It was brought up to the board that a link radio was needed. It was the decision to not replace it at this time.

The RAE liability was discussed with two separate and important circumstances were discussed. The board decided to further pursue our interest in trying to explore our liability insurance. The current liability insurance was read.

Club budget was looked over again carefully. The principle of the investments was projected out for the 2012 fiscal year.

Question was brought up on the previous years’ secretarial files that were not transferred over. Plans made to try and locate them, specifically the Vanguard investment statement.

Equipment insurance coverage was to be paid and put the current equipment not listed on the policy to be included.

Repeater committee, it was discussed that a meeting needed to take place and the secretary was to make notice of that.

KA3QDM passed away. Card was to be sent.

Motion made by George Younkin N3SRF to adjourn, and it was seconded. Meeting adjourned at 20:40

Adam Kernohan KB3THU

"Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers. After entering the ground, the electricity hardens into coal, which, when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called 'generators,' turns back into electricity...where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers and back into the ground, thus completing what is known as a "circuit".....Dave Barry

RADIO LAW: NEW 5 MHZ RULES GO INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 5

In the United States, word that the new rules governing ham radio operations in the 5 MHz or 60 meter spectrum take effect on March 5th. This after a notice to that affect appeared in the February 3rd edition of the United States Federal Register.

As previously reported, last November the FCC released a Report and Order detailing new rules for the 5 MHz Amateur Radio band.

The announcement brought with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators. This included substituting a channel at 5.358.5 MHz for 5.368 MHz previously authorized. The effective radiated limit in the 60 meter band will be raised by 3 dB to 100 Watts Peak Envelope Power relative to a half-wave dipole. Also, three additional emission types are authorized. These are Data, RTTY and CW.

Currently, amateur radio in the United States holds a secondary allocation for 5 MHz and ham radio operations must not cause any interference to the primary users of that band. These include fixed service, as well as mobile stations authorized by the telecommunications regulators of other sovereign

nations. Access in the United States to the channelized 60 meter spectrum is limited to holders of General class or high FCC license grants. You can read the entire Federal Register item explaining the 5 MHz changes at tinyurl.com/6wzsfjm (FCC)

February General Meeting Minutes

A Regular meeting of the Radio Association of Erie (RAE) was held on February 2, 2012 at the Erie Chapter of the American Red Cross. The president and secretary were present. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the chair Doug Sweet AD4UL at 1900. The minutes of the previous (December) meeting were not available, read, nor approved.

Program displayed to the membership was about the HyGain factory.

1918- Doug AD4UL- moment of silence for SK's Don Kelly KA3QDM & Cecil Wiltshire NM3L

Secretary- KB3THU- no report from December was passed from outgoing secretary, minutes were not available to be approved.

Treasurer- N3SRF- Vanguard \$40,010 with \$250.00 (approx) per quarter dividend and was making about \$13k per year. Fidelity \$23,500. Budget for 2012 was carried over from 2011. The expenses and incomes are now categorized to keep better track of. A motion was made by KE3V to accept the budget and it was seconded, motion carried. January's financial activity was posted. Membership was 35 unpaid for 2012. Fuel oil at clubhouse was getting low. Building (clubhouse) may be in need of some repair this year.

Board of Directors- N3BXL gave a presentation of the agenda that the Board wants to accomplish in 2012. He also discussed his time as previous president how the tower and prior repeater systems happened without the knowledge of where the money came from. That information cannot be withheld to the members of the association like it was in the past.

Membership- N3SRF as of the meeting 7 Associate, 56 Full, 16 Life for a total of 79. 30 were unpaid from 2011.

Repeaters- No one present to report. AD4UL gave statement about the committee meeting soon. Echolink was working great for him. Possibly change the greeting telling stations who log in to wait a little longer before logging out.

Public Service- AD4UL- MS Bike Ride change was mentioned to him in an email from the coordinator. Route was said to be from Allegheny College to Zelienople to Conneaut. There was no mention of Edinboro or Erie in the email. March of Dimes walk on Presque Isle is scheduled for the last Sunday in April.

Website- still unfinished

Newsletter- WB3IFD- still mailing out hard copies to members without email addresses. December and January Board meetings will be included in the next issue. Articles are always sought. Email them to John Lindvay at jlindvay@msn.com

Clubhouse- AD4UL shutters are still unfinished. N3ZNP- water pipes are winterized.

Contesting- WB3IFD Ten-Ten contest this month. Schedule in the QUAREA.

Programs- AD4UL no program scheduled in March.

Good of the Order- AD4UL cookouts will continue in the spring. A few months were scheduled in for members committing on the food donation. A few more are needed to fulfill the summer months. Coordinate with Doug AD4UL please.

KB3NAT reported the 40 meter dipole needed replaced. AD4UL- bring it down and inspect, thinks it may be the coax.

Motion made by N3NKV to adjourn, seconded, motion carried at 2007.

Adam Kernohan KB3THU RAE Secretary

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married.

The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent. Since they were a perfect match, soon they generated harmonics. Wrapped the harmonics in dipoles.

But later the harmonics turned out to be parasitic elements. The true story -- she was a tri-bander and he felt trapped, so they went on separate beam headings.

Congratulations to WB3DOM for taking Western Pennsylvania in the 2011 QSO Party

Don't Forget the RagChew Net week nights at 9 PM on .61 and .82 repeaters. Some subjects that are discussed but not limited to are ham radio in the 60s and 70s. Quite a lot of hams check in via echolink.

You Are Having More Problems Than You Think

Caller: I'm having a problem with passwords on my computer. When I type it in, it just shows stars.

Tech Support: The astericks are there to protect you. For instance, if someone is standing behind you, they won't know what you've typed in.

Caller: But they show up even when there is no one standing behind me!

K3PLV in Jersey

Once again K3PLV and K8PT will be operating from the island country of Jersey (EU-13). We will be on all HF bands from 160 – 10, including the WARC bands, using SSB, CW, and RTTY. Operation will begin March 27th and run through April 3rd. I will use the call MJ/K3PLV and my friend will use MJ/K8PT. I would enjoy working as many area hams as possible. This includes Northwestern Pennsylvania, Northeast Ohio, and Southwest New York. Also any Erie area hams who are now living in other states. One way to find where we are operating if you have internet access, is to go

to <http://www.dxsummit.fi/DxSpots.aspx> You will see the last 50 DX spots which are updated every minute. If you click on the “search button” and enter mj/k3plv, you will see the last spots entered for me. Also I will try to get on the Fort Pierce Connection, which is on 14.340 MHz at 8 am local time (8:30 Sunday). It doesn’t take a great deal of power or large antenna arrays to work me. I work many mobiles from the United States and also many people running 5 watts or less. This will be my 13th trip to Jersey and I’m looking forward to operating and seeing my friends. Last year I worked 20 area hams and had over 4,700 QSOs. Let’s see if we can beat that.

February Board Meeting Minutes

A Board of Directors meeting of the Radio Association of Erie (RAE) was held on February 23, 2012 at the Erie Chapter of the American Red Cross. The president and secretary were present. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the chair Ron Prindle N3BXL at 1900. A motion was made by George N3SRF to accept the minutes for January as posted in the QUARAE. It was seconded and approved, motion passed. Present were AD4UL electronically, WB3DOM, K3PLV, N3SRF, WB3IFD, KB3THU, N3BXL. Absent were Terry Nemitz, KA3UTD and Frank Henry KB3NAT and Kevin McKenna KE3V. N3SRF Treasurers Report was given. There was a question about \$600.00 from last year and it was answered.

AD4UL Silent Keys from the newspaper were to given mention in regular meeting and floor was open to any new SK’s. Al N3JOC was given the mail.qth list and was happy with results.

KB3THU Repeater- issues included the time not set kerchunkering and the tail tones. It was also brought up if there was any missing equipment like cables and current .dat files.

General Board- where is KA3UTD ?? Email was to try and make contact.

N3BXL- questioned on who picked up mail.

N3SRF is getting it often, KB3THU is backup.

General Board- discussed who was going to be responsible for the membership list in the absence of KA3UTD, N3SRF and WB3IFD were going to share responsibility and make sure the list on the

website is updated quarterly. The treasurer’s spreadsheet was to be kept as it has been.

WB3IFD- Frank Bliley K3NAU was not listed as a life member, N3SRF assured he is and will double check records as needed.

General Board- liability insurance-Hayes Infinity club liability for “events”. Skywarn liability goes into question about severe weather traffic passed across the W3GV repeaters to open public frequencies.

KB3THU-former secretary has not turned in all the media that belongs to the club. Possibility of many items not returned. Doug AD4UL has a list collected from the Board, will send out an email inquiring about them.

N3SRF- the list server email list is going to be double checked by N3SRF & N3JOC.

N3BXL-Expenses of the club audit that he has been really paying attention to in past couple months have been within his expectations. Big expenses have covered by membership dues, but is cautious of the future. AD4UL stated the \$250 quarterly dividend from the trust was brought in the past to be used to cover expenses in years past due to the lack of fundraising participation. Lease on the clubhouse was questioned, Jan 9, 2000 was the start of the 30 year lease.

Meeting adjourned at 2004.

Adam Kernohan

Save the Date – April 14th

Club House Clean Up

- 1. Wall blocks need fixed.**
- 2. Change furnace tank**
- 3. Plug holes in wall**
- 4. Shutter front windows**
- 5. Check and repair antennas**
- 6. Give the place a thorough cleaning**

We need some volunteers to help do the things that need done. If you can’t donate time, how about donating cleaning supplies, coax, or other items that might be needed to do the above tasks

Ham Radio Calendar

**March 1 – RAE Club meeting at the Red Cross
7PM**

March 3- 4 International DX Contest – Phone

**March 8 - Union City Wireless Association
meeting at Union City School 7 PM**

March 10 - Pennsylvania Charter Day
Mar 10-Mar 11, 1300Z-2359Z, WM3PEN,
Philadelphia, PA. Holmesburg Amateur Radio
Club. 28.410 21.310 18.140 14.240. QSL.
Holmesburg ARC, 3341 Sheffield Ave,
Philadelphia, PA 19136. Celebrating the month
William Penn was granted a charter for land called
Pennsylvania. It's Pennsylvania's 331
birthday. www.harcnet.org

March 10 - Idaho QSO Party

March 11 – Wisconsin QSO Party

March 11 – Daylight Savings Time Begins

**March 13 – Wattsburg Wireless Monthly Club
Meeting 7 PM At Greenfield Township Building**

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day. Buy a new radio to
celebrate!

March 17 – Oklahoma QSO Party

March 17 – Virginia QSO Party

March 17 – North Dakota QSO Party

March 21 – SkyWarn Training at Hamot Hospital
6:30 PM

March 24 – CQ WPX SSB Contest

March 27 – K3PLV in Jersey